Calendar No. 1399

82D CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1473

AMENDING THE ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECORDING AND RELEASING OF LIENS BY ENTRIES ON CERTIFICATES OF TITLE FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," APPROVED JULY 2, 1940, AS AMENDED

APRIL 23 (legislative day, APRIL 14), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HUNT, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2735]

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The Committee on the District of Columbia, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2735) to amend the Act entitled "An act to provide for the recording and releasing of liens by entries on certificates of title for motor vehicles and trailers, and for other purposes," approved July 2, 1940, as amended, after full consideration, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The purpose of this bill is to relieve the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia of the duty of maintaining indexes of liens on motor vehicles by engine numbers. Certain automobile manufacturers have discontinued the use of engine numbers, thereby limiting identification to a serial number on the vehicle chassis. Other manufacturers will shortly discontinue the use of engine identification numbers. Under the proposed bill, the Recorder of Deeds would be authorized and directed to maintain appropriate records of serial numbers, but would be relieved of the obligation to maintain an index of engine numbers. The bill has the approval of the Board of Commissioners, the Director of Vehicles and Traffic, the Recorder of Deeds, and the Bureau of the Budget.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law in the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

(Sec. 4, 54 Stat. 737)

An instrument shall be in writing; shall show the name and address of the holder, the trade name and engine, *serial or identification* number of the motor vehicle or the trade name and serial number, if any of the trailer; shall be signed by the parties and acknowledged by the owner in the manner provided by law for deeds of real estate. A lien shall not be entered upon a certificate unless (1) the motor vehicle or trailer has been previously titled or registered in this or some other jurisdiction and the lien is shown upon such previous certificate, title, registry, or proof of ownership; or (2) such an instrument is presented for recording pursuant to the provisions of this chapter; or (3) the lien is shown on the application for a certificate, and was created prior to January 1, 1941, or was created while the motor vehicle or trailer was titled or registered in some other jurisdiction.

(Sec. 8, 54 Stat. 738)

The rights of the holder of an unsatisfied lien shown on a certificate may be assigned by an assignment in writing, which shall show the name and address of the assignee, the trade name and engine, *serial or identification* number of the motor vehicle, or the trade name and serial number, if any, of the trailer, and the recorder's record number of the instrument, or, if none, a brief description sufficient to identify the lien shall be signed by the holder of the lien and acknowledged by him in the manner provided by law for deeds of real estate. * * *

(Sec. 13, 54 Stat. 739)

The recorder shall maintain, in the space assigned to him in the office of the director, files wherein he shall file one set of the cards hereinbefore described alphabetically under the name of owner and the other under the trade name and engine, *serial or identification* number if it covers a motor vehicle, or the trade name and serial number, if any, if it covers a trailer. The recorder shall file the instruments at his main office.

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